

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02 /072 W
-----098390 181217Z /43

R 181106Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5642
INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, RH, TZ
SUBJECT: TANZANIAN COMMENT ON RETURN TO RHODESIA OF SITHOLE
AND MUZOREWA

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1. GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY NEWS COMMENTED JULY 18 ON
RETURN TO RHODESIA OF SITHOLE AND MUZOREWA. SENSE OF EDITORIAL
IS THAT MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE, WHO ARE "ONLY TWO INDIVIDUALS,"
DID NOT RETURN TO RHODESIA TO GO TO PRISON AND HAVE THEREFORE
DECIDED TO COLLABORATE WITH SMITH. WE ARE INCLINED TO ACCEPT
EDITORIAL AS VIEWPOINT OF HIGHEST LEVEL OF TANGOV, AN EXPRESSION
OF REGRET THAT TWO ONCE-RESPECTED NATIONALIST LEADERS HAVE DEALT
THEMSELVES OUT AS AUTHENTIC OPPONENTS OF SMITH'S REGIME.

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2. TEXT OF EDITORIAL FOLLOWS.

3. BEGIN TEXT. ONE WOULD HAVE WISHED TO SEE A RETURN OF BOTH
BISHOP MUZOREWA AND REVEREND NDABANINGI SITHOLE TO THEIR COUNTRY
TOGETHER WITH THE PEOPLE THEY LED IN EXILE IN THE STRUGGLE FOR THE
LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE.

INSTEAD, THE BISHOP AND THE REVEREND HAVE CHOSEN TO RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY ALONE.

INDICATIONS ARE THAT THEY ARE NOT RETIRING QUIETLY TO A CHURCH MANSE THERE TO SPREAD THE WORD OF GOD AND PERHPAS BEGIN WRITING THEIR MEMOIRS.

REVEREND SITHOLE IS SAID TO HAVE DENOUNCED THE ARMED STRUGGLE FOR THE FREEDOM OF HIS COUNTRY THE MOMENT HE LANDED AT SALISBURY AIRPORT. WE DON'T EXPECT THE BISHOP TO BEHAVE DIFFERENTLY.

THEY OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO LIVE UP TO THE TERMS OF THEIR DEAL WITH SMITH AND SOUTH AFRICA OR ELSE BE THROWN IN JAIL.

IT IS NOT, HOWEVER, THE RISK OF JAIL OR MOLESTATION BY THE SMITH FORCES THAT HAS LED SITHOLE AND CO. TO DENOUNCE THE ARMED STRUGGLE. SITHOLE SPENT MANY YEARS AS A PRISONER OF SMITH AND KNOWING THE REVEREND AS WE DO, HE IS NOT EASILY INTIMIDATED BY THE PROSPECTS OF IMPRISONMENT.

NEITHER IS THE REVEREND AND THE BISHOP DENOUNCING THE ARMED STRUGGLE BECAUSE THEY ARE CHURCHMEN OPPOSED TO VIOLENCE PER SE. THE TWO WERE AT SOME TIME IN THE IMMEDIATE PAST, THE MOST VOCIFEROUS ADVOCATES OF THE ARMED STRUGGLE.
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THE RETURN TO SALISBURY OF REVEREND SITHOLE AND BISHOP MUZOREWA AND THEIR DENOUNCIATION OF THE ARMED STRUGGLE IS PART OF THE GRAND CONSPIRACY TO REACH WHAT HAS BEEN DESCRIBED BY SMITH AS AN "INTERNAL SOLUTION".

FROM NOW ON, THE TWO MEN WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE SMITH REGIME AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE. THEY WILL ALSO HAVE TO BEHAVE THEMSELVES, FOR SMITH CAN STILL TURN AROUND AND LOCK THEM UP REGARDLESS OF THEIR DEAL. IF THAT HAPPENS, IT WOULD SERVE THEM RIGHT.

BUT THE REVEREND AND THE BISHOP ARE ONLY TWO INDIVIDUALS. THE STRUGGLE WILL CONTINUE WITHOUT THEM AS IN FACT IT HAS BEEN DOING DESPITE THEM. THEIR FATE WILL EVENTUALLY BE DECIDED BY THE PEOPLE OF AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE.

AND THE SO-CALLED INTERNAL SOLUTION WILL NEVER WORK. THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE GETTING NEARER AND NEARER TO SALISBURY AND WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT STRENGTHENING ITS UNITY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN THE FIELD, THE DAY OF VICTORY IS NOT FAR OFF. END TEXT.
SPAIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TEXT, NATIONALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DARES02877
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770254-1091
Format: TEL
From: DAR ES SALAAM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770748/aaaabpka.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ace7356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1833343
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TANZANIAN COMMENT ON RETURN TO RHODESIA OF SITHOLE AND MUZOREWA BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: PDEV, SOPN, RH, TZ, (SITHOLE, NDABANINGI), (MUZOREWA, ABEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ace7356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009